

April 8, 2010

Stephen Martino, Executive Director
Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission
700 SW Harrison, Suite 500
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Stephen,

Per the authority provided to me under K.S.A. 74-8736, I am denying the Kansas Lottery Gaming Facility Review Board's request for a 60 day extension in the south central gaming zone.

More than one year ago applicants submitted their proposals to the Kansas Lottery Commission. Last August, after a 90 day extension, the Commission approved the Chisholm Creek application. The following September the Gaming Facility Review Board also requested, and was granted, a 60 day extension. After this extension, the contract was sent back to the Commission for further negotiations. In February of this year, the Commission approved the Chisholm Creek contract and sent it to the Gaming Facility Review Board, which is now requesting an additional extension. If I were to grant this 60-day extension, it would push the Review Board's consideration of this contract into June.

I believe it is not in the best interest of Kansas, or the project stakeholders, to again delay this decision. The State of Kansas needs a clear understanding of its finances at this point in the fiscal year. Chisholm Creek's \$25 million application fee is currently a part of projected FY 2010 revenues. Further delays in the review and approval process for this project will extend the uncertainty around this fee beyond the time when the Legislature could address the shortfall created if Chisholm Creek should withdraw.

In its request for an extension, the Review Board cited zoning uncertainty and the potential for future legislation as reasons meriting additional delay. However, Sumner County finalized all zoning issues on Monday, April 5th and any litigation is unlikely to impact the zoning of the proposed site. Meanwhile, the inherent nature of our democracy creates the potential for the legislature to consider changes to the law each year. To stop any process because of hypothetical action that the legislature may, or may not take, would set a precedent in which nothing is ever accomplished or advanced.

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It is in the best interest of the people of Kansas to move forward with this proposal in a timely manner and to avoid further delays.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Parkinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "M" and a trailing flourish.

Mark Parkinson
Governor of the State of Kansas